

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently amended) A computer system that determines authorization privileges for resources for a user, the system comprising:

a file system on which the resources reside;

a first software; and

the first software acting to:

intercept an authorization request from the user for a particular resource;

search a cache to determine if the resource may be accessed by the user,

the cache containing results of prior authorization requests, wherein the cache comprises an inherited cache portion and a direct cache portion, and wherein a determination is made as to which of the inherited cache portion and the direct cache portion to access;  
and

selectively authorize or deny the use of the resource based upon a result of the search of the cache.

2. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the first software authorizes or denies the use of the resource based upon one or more predetermined parameters, wherein the cache comprises both a grant field and a deny field which are used by the first software to determine whether to grant or deny the use of the resource.

3. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 2 1 wherein the first software authorizes or denies the use of the resource based upon one or more predetermined parameters, the one or more predetermined parameters comprising a requesting resource identifier of a resource requesting the particular resource.

4. (Original) The computer system of claim 2, the one or more predetermined parameters comprising a user ID.

5. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 2, the one or more predetermined parameters comprising a time ~~of day~~ indicating lifetime of a given resource entry in the cache.
6. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the search of the cache is based on a key, the key derived from hashing one or more search parameters.
7. (Original) The computer system of claim 6, the one or more search parameters comprising an FID.
8. (Original) The computer system of claim 1, the first software further acting to initiate an authorization protocol that determines an authorization status of the resource when the search of the cache of authorization requests fails to reveal any previous requests.
9. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 8, wherein the results of the authorization protocol to determine an authorization status of the resource are added to the cache, wherein a determination is made as to which of the inherited cache portion and the direct cache portion to add the results to.
10. (Currently amended) A method to determine authorization privileges for resources for a user of a computer system, the method comprising:
- ~~Intercepting~~ intercepting an authorization request for access from the user for a particular resource;
  - hashing at least a portion of the authorization request to generate a hash value;
  - ~~Searching~~ searching a cache of prior authorization requests to determine if the resource may be accessed, wherein the cache comprises a plurality of tables and a given one of the plurality of tables is selected based on the hash value; and
  - if a hit is made in the cache, selectively deciding the authorization request based at least in part on information found in the cache.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising:  
determining the resource authorization based upon ~~one or more~~ predetermined parameters associated with the request, wherein the predetermined parameters comprise granted actions and denied actions maintained in the tables.
12. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~11~~, ~~the one or more predetermined parameters comprising a requesting resource identification 10~~, further comprising determining the resource authorization based upon predetermined parameters associated with the request, wherein the predetermined parameters comprise an expire time of when a given entry in the cache expires.
13. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~11~~, ~~the one or more predetermined parameters comprising a user identification 10~~, further comprising determining the resource authorization based upon predetermined parameters associated with the request, wherein the predetermined parameters comprise an identifier of an accessing application's binary file.
14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 11, the ~~one or more~~ predetermined parameters comprising a time indicating lifetime of a given resource entry in the cache.
15. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein an outcome of the step of searching is based at least in part upon an FID.
16. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:  
initiating an authorization protocol to determine an authorization status of the resource when the step of searching fails to reveal any requests.
17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 further comprising:  
saving in the cache the results of the authorization protocol to determine an authorization status of the resource, wherein the cache comprises an inherited cache

portion and a direct cache portion, and wherein a determination is made as to which of the inherited cache portion and the direct cache portion to add the results to.

18. (Currently amended) A computer program product on a computer useable medium, the computer usable medium having a computer usable program embodied therein for preprocessing an incoming request for information from a user over network, the information stored on one or more source servers communicatively coupled to a computing system, the computer usable program including:

instructions for intercepting an authorization request for access from the user for a particular resource;

instructions for searching a cache of prior authorization requests to determine if the resource may be accessed; and

instructions for selectively deciding the authorization request based at least in part on information found in the cache, wherein the authorization request comprises an identifier of an application that generated the authorization request.

19. (Original) The computer program product of claim 18 further comprising:

instructions for determining the resource authorization based upon one or more predetermined parameters associated with the request.

20. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 19, the one or more predetermined parameters comprising a requesting resource identification from a previous authorization request.

21. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 19, ~~the one or more predetermined parameters comprising a user identification~~ 18, wherein the cache comprises an inheritance cache portion and a direct cache portion, and further comprising instructions for determining which of the inherited cache portion and the direct cache portion to access.

22. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 19, the one or more predetermined parameters comprising a time indicating lifetime of a given resource entry in the cache.

23. (Original) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein an outcome of the instructions for searching is based at least in part upon an FID.

24. (Original) The computer program product of claim 18 further comprising:  
instructions for initiating an authorization protocol to determine an authorization status of the resource when the instructions for searching fail to reveal any requests.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24 further comprising:  
instructions for saving in the cache the results of the authorization protocol to determine an authorization status of the resource, wherein the cache comprises an inherited cache portion and a direct cache portion, and further comprising instructions for determining which of the inherited cache portion and the direct cache portion to add the results to.